

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS**

**MAYOR:** Tonita Gurulé-Girón

**COUNCILORS:** David G. Romero  
Barbara A. Casey  
Vincent Howell  
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ann Marie Gallegos, Interim City Manager  
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk  
Esther Garduno Montoya, City Attorney  
Kenneth Jenkins, Deputy Chief of Police

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Councilor Howell asked for a moment of silence to keep all of the residents in the State of Florida and on the East Coast that are being affected by the devastating hurricane Michael in their prayers.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	David G. Romero	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised that the motion carried.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Leo Maestas from the Office of Emergency Management spoke about a workshop for senior officials for all hazard preparedness. Mr. Maestas advised the workshop provides a forum for senior officials to understand strategic and executive level issues related to all hazard disaster preparedness.

Interim City Manager Ann Marie Gallegos advised it is a good workshop on what to do and how to proceed with emergencies.

Mr. Maestas advised the training would have an instructional workshop part and an exercise training based on an incident such as an active shooter or something having to do with the fiestas. Mr. Maestas advised there have been incidents where people are using cars to go through crowds.

Marshall Poole advised in September, the animal welfare coalition took in one hundred and seventy two animals, and one hundred and sixty four of those animals were unidentified. Mr. Poole advised they returned thirty nine animals to their owner or guardians, they adopted twenty nine animals locally and they trapped thirty seven cats and they were sent for spaying and neutering. Mr. Poole advised they transported fifty four animals to seven different agencies for adoption.

Mr. Poole advised they had zero bite holds in September. Mr. Poole advised they transported nineteen citizen owned dogs and cats at a low cost of twenty five dollars or no cost for spaying and neutering and also transported ten strays or owner surrendered animals for spay and neutering.

Mr. Poole advised they had an incident where one dog was abandoned and locked in a home for eight days without food or water and was in terrible condition. Mr. Poole advised the owner was cited by animal control and was found guilty in Municipal Court and had to pay fines for animal abandonment and neglect. Mr. Poole advised they may or may not be able to save the animal.

Discussion took place regarding the annual Art Bark fundraiser in November.

Lee Einer spoke about concerns regarding the newly appointed Police Chief. Mr. Einer advised the council might not have been apprised of an ongoing lawsuit or a past guilty plea for domestic assault regarding the Police Chief before they took their vote. Mr. Einer advised he was perplexed about that because a background check by law enforcement should at the minimum have that information but he believes full information was not shared with the council before they voted. Mr. Einer asked for the council to take a second look if there is a process problem that needs to be addressed and to support an external investigation that will either clear the Police Chief's reputation or protect the community.

### **Discussion Items**

1. Department of Public Safety Grant for Las Vegas Police Department Street Crimes Unit for overtime, confidential funds and undercover vehicle maintenance .

Deputy Police Chief Kenneth Jenkins advised this grant is known as the Region grant or the JAG grant. Deputy Police Chief Jenkins advised the narcotics enforcement has not died in the community but they do share the responsibility with other counties. Deputy Police Chief Jenkins advised they got the funding after they changed the name to the Street Crimes Unit and focused on Las Vegas as a whole instead of focusing on other counties.

Councilor Howell asked how often does the regional task force give the governing body status reports.

Deputy Police Chief Jenkins advised their agency provides monthly reports in reference to narcotics, criminal investigations and calls for service.

Interim City Manager Ann Marie Gallegos advised the reports are part of their monthly progress reports that are submitted to her.

Discussion took place regarding a verbal progress report during council meetings.

Discussion took place regarding the goals set to reduce the drug problem in the community and those who are bringing in drugs.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., asked if the Street Crimes Unit was like the Region IV Taskforce.

Deputy Police Chief Jenkins advised yes, it is the same thing but they changed the name to the Street Crimes Unit and changed their focus only on Las Vegas.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the different counties not following through on their part.

Discussion and questions took place regarding citizens from the community willing to sit down with police officers and give their feedback on what they see going on in the community and presenting at schools.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

2. Resolution #18-42 request to continue support of the Amtrak Southwest Chief Passenger Service through Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Interim Community Development Director Virginia Marrujo advised Amtrak is keeping the Southwest Chief Passenger Service for another year and if approved, the resolution will show the support to the Southwest Chief to continue service through Las Vegas and throughout New Mexico.

Councilor Casey advised in the resolution under the 5th whereas states, the train is a key economic contributor to Las Vegas, New Mexico and Northern New Mexico, including the cities of Raton, Santa Fe, Lamy, history of the train in Las Vegas, NM, but the history of the train in Las Vegas, NM does not fit into the rest of the whereas sentence.

Councilor Casey advised moving it and making a new whereas to include whereas, the train also contributes greatly to the history and economic development of Las Vegas and other New Mexico communities or something to that effect.

Discussion took place regarding changing the whereas in the resolution.

Councilor Casey advised there was a typo on the last whereas on the second line, "Of" should have a little "o" instead of a big "O".

Councilor Romero asked where the direction came from to go through with the resolution.

Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón advised it was herself and she was contacted by a lot of people to put together a letter which she sent and then to adopt a resolution to support Amtrak.

Councilor Romero advised on July 11th he sent Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón through email requesting the same resolution.

Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón advised she had been sending letters for two years now and the resolution came after the fact and was waiting for other communities to put their resolutions through, and advised she's been working on the Amtrak issue for three years and two and a half years as Mayor and appreciates Councilor Romero's input.

Discussion took place regarding how much time Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón and Interim Community Director Virginia Marrujo have spent working on the Amtrak issue.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the consistency within the resolution.

Discussion and questions took place regarding concerns about adding the investment of Mainstreet and Allan Affeldt instead of focusing on Amtrak.

Discussion took place regarding an additional whereas in the resolution to include the relation to the historic district in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

The governing body agreed to not place the item as a consent agenda item until the resolution is amended.

3. Award RFP #2019-02 to Animal Welfare Coalition of Northeastern New Mexico for animal services & shelter operations.

Interim Community Development Director Virginia Marrujo advised the only RFP submitted was the Animal Welfare Coalition of Northeastern New Mexico.

Discussion took place regarding the support for the Animal Welfare Coalition and their amazing work.

Councilor Howell suggested Mr. Poole should start a Capital fundraising initiative so they can see the tremendous amount of support they have.

Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón commended Mr. Poole and all the staff for taking the program and making it a great program and the professionalism they bring to the organization.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the skunk issue and the policy for the City of Las Vegas regarding skunks.

Councilor Romero requested an update in two months as to where they are with the skunk issue.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

4. Resolution No. 18-37 Abatement of nuisances located at 1309 6th Street.

Code Enforcement Officer Levy Lujan advised the property has several nuisances such as accumulation of solid waste, unsanitary premises, and hazard premises. Code Enforcement Officer Lujan advised neighbors are noticing insects and vermin coming from the property.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the red tags given to Robert Hanford Dalton due to the condition of his property.

Interim Community Development Director Virginia Marrujo advised she drove past the residence and noticed Mr. Dalton accumulated more than before.

Code Enforcement Officer Lujan advised Mr. Dalton had been cited into Municipal Court for those violations and has not done anything to correct them.

Councilor Casey thanked Code Enforcement Officer Lujan for the work that he has done and he is always responsive. Councilor Casey advised she has gotten a lot of complaints about the conditions of residence.

Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón advised she got a lot of calls as well about the residence and thanked Code Enforcement Officer Lujan and Interim Community Development Director Marrujo for helping as she knows they are short staffed.

Discussion and questions took place regarding how long Mr. Dalton has owned the property and if that was his home.

Discussion and questions took place regarding when the complaints came in and what type of communication was done after speaking to Mr. Dalton.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., commended Code Enforcement Officer Lujan on doing a good job.

Discussion and questions took place regarding Code Enforcement Officer Lujan going back to those residences that have been red tagged and still not in compliance with code enforcement.

Discussion and questions took place regarding how long a turn around for properties would be once fully staffed.

Discussion and questions took place regarding pending litigations with the property.

Discussion and questions took place regarding how code enforcement determines a property that is in violation.

Discussion and questions took place regarding who cleans out the acequias on 8th Street and the removal of rocks along the fence line at the Housing Authority.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

5. Resolution No. 18-41 assuring the availability of matching funds for the Plan and Design, Construction Management and Construction of the Municipal Airport SRE Building, for the storage of the Snow Removal Equipment as per FAA agreement. Total cost of the project = \$89,100.00, State match = \$81,000.00, City share = \$8,100.00.

Interim Public Works Director Danny Gurule advised according to FAA they need to store the Snow Removal Equipment when it is not in use. Interim Public Works Director Gurule advised they would have to extend the building to fit the size of the equipment.

Interim City Manager Ann Marie Gallegos advised the funding is from a grant from the FAA organization.

Councilor Romero asked if the bidding process will be handled by the City of Las Vegas or the FAA.

Interim Public Works Director Gurule advised once they get the approval then they will go out for bids.

Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón stated it is for planning and designing.

Councilor Howell asked if the snow removal equipment will be used by other departments.

Interim Public Works Director Gurule advised per FAA they can't and can only be used at the airport.

Councilor Howell asked if the planning and design will be done in a hangar.

Interim Public Works Director Danny Gurule advised, no they have a building but they need to extend the back because the equipment doesn't fit in it now.

Interim City Manager Gallegos advised the snow equipment is as wide as the runway.

Discussion took place regarding the approval of Mr. Billingsley getting a hangar at the airport.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

#### 6. Resolution #18-43 Budget Adjustment Resolution.

Interim City Manager Ann Marie Gallegos asked for the governing body's permission to present on the behalf of Interim Finance Director Tana Vega.

Interim City Manager Gallegos advised this was the first budget adjustment resolution for the year and they amend their budgets to include all the different grants that have been funded to the City of Las Vegas after the September final budget.

Discussion took place regarding an increase to Lodgers Tax publications and advertising.

Discussion took place regarding an increase for the CLG grant to complete the Old City Hall renovations.

Discussion took place regarding the Legislative Appropriation for the Senior Center parking lot improvements.

Discussion took place regarding the 214 fund for the planning, design and construction for Mountain View Drive to Grand Avenue.

Discussion took place regarding the coop. projects for West National to South Pacific and the design for West National to South Keen Street to Southwest National.

Discussion took place regarding the awardment for the senior employment program.

Discussion took place regarding the loan proceeds for water storage at Storrie Lake.

Discussion took place regarding the debt service with the principal and interest included to New Mexico Finance Authority.

Discussion took place regarding the Federal Aviation lighting project for the Las Vegas Airport funded by FAA, the building modifications for the storage of the snow removal equipment and the awardment for general supplies and materials.

Discussion took place regarding the total of expenditures and revenues.

Councilor Howell asked who worked on all the aviation grants.

Interim City Manager Gallegos advised FAA does inspections at the airport and recommends different projects.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the Lodgers Tax budget and their recommendation for the increase for publications and advertising.

Councilor Howell advised there are concerns about the November 6th Lodgers Tax meeting being on the same day as voting.

Interim Community Development Director Virginia Marrujo advised she will bring that up to the Lodgers Tax committee.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilor Casey made a motion to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussing both personnel matters, as permitted by Section 10-15-1 (H) (2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978 and also for matters subject to the attorney client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the City of Las Vegas is or may become a participant, as permitted by Section 10-15-1 (H) (7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David G. Romero	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised that the motion carried.

Councilor Casey made a motion to reconvene into regular session after being in executive session to discuss personnel matters, as permitted by Section 10-15-1 (H) (2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978 and to discuss matters subject to the attorney client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the City of Las Vegas is or may become a participant, as permitted by Section 10-15-1 (H) (7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, no decisions were made during the executive session. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David G. Romero  
Barbara Casey

Yes  
Yes

Vincent Howell  
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.      Yes  
Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised that the motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Howell and Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., both seconded the motion. Mayor Gurulé-Girón asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David G. Romerol  
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.

Yes  
Yes

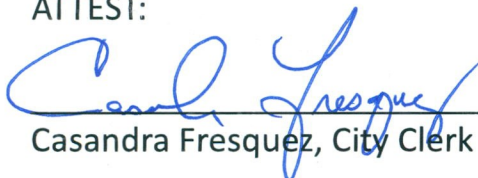
Barbara Casey  
Vincent Howell      Yes  
Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised that the motion carried.



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Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón

ATTEST:



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Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk